GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2184
ANSWERED ON:18.03.2002
HAJ PILGRIMS DENIED TO BOARD THE PLANE
KAMAL NATH

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Haj pilgrims, mostly from Madhya Pradesh were refused entry on board the plane of New Delhi in spite of having flight tickets;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total number of such affected pilgrims; and

(d) the officers held responsible for this chaos at the airport and action taken against them?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a) : No, Sir. All the confirmed pilgrims from Madhya Pradesh proceeded for Haj except those who cancelled/did not report for their journey owing to personal reasons. However, some persons from Madhya Pradesh gathered in the Liasion office of Haj Committee at New Delhi at a very late stage in February, 2002 with fresh applications for proceeding for Haj. Since there were less cancellation/ non reporters this year, these fresh applicants could not proceed for Haj. Moreover, Haj Terminal at Jeddah airport was also shut down on 16.2.2002 as per schedule, and the additional flights which had been arranged for, could not depart from Delhi.

(b), (c) and (d) : Do not arise.